

I CLAIM:

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1. A hockey stick blade or replacement blade for the game of ice hockey and the like, said blade comprising:

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- a blade portion having two lateral outer surfaces;
 - at least one of said outer surfaces having a molded outer layer defining a rough surface finish on at least a portion of said at least one outer surface, said molded outer layer adapted to enhance friction between said blade portion and a puck.

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2. A blade as defined in claim 1 wherein said rough surface finish includes a series of small projections.

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1026 3. A blade as defined in claim 1 wherein said rough surface finish is a diamond grit texture projecting from said at least one of said outer surfaces.

1026 4. A blade as defined in claim 2 wherein small projections extend above said at least one outer surface a distance ranging from .005 to 1mm.

1026 5. A blade as defined in claim 4 wherein small projections extend above said at least one outer surface a distance ranging from .02 to .08mm.

1026 6. A blade as defined in claim 1, wherein said at least one of said outer surfaces further comprises a shock-absorbing element.

1026 7. A blade as defined in claim 6 wherein said shock-absorbing element is embedded into said molded outer layer.

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1026 8. A blade as defined in claim 7 wherein said shock-absorbing element extend above said at least one outer surface by about 1 to 4mm.

1026 9. A blade as defined in claim 6 wherein said shock-absorbing element is

bonded to said at least one of said outer surfaces.

102V 10. A blade as defined in claim 6 wherein said shock-absorbing element is made of a deformable material.

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102V 11. A blade as defined in claim 10 wherein said shock-absorbing element is made a rubberized material.

102V 12. A blade as defined in claim 7 wherein said blade portion further comprises at least one aperture in an upper area of said blade portion.

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102V 13. A blade as defined in claim 12 wherein said blade comprises a series of apertures in said upper area of said blade portion.

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102V 14. A hockey stick blade or replacement blade for the game of ice hockey and the like, said blade comprising:

-a blade-portion having two lateral outer surfaces;

-at least one of said outer surfaces having at least one shock-absorbing element embedded into said at least one of said outer surfaces.

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102V 15. A blade as defined in claim 14 wherein said shock-absorbing element is made of a deformable material.

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25 102V 16. A blade as defined in claim 15 comprising a series of shock-absorbing elements.

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102V 17. A blade as defined in claim 16 wherein said shock-absorbing element is a band of rubberized material.

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102V 18. A blade as defined in claim 14 wherein said at least one of said outer surfaces comprises a molded outer layer defining a rough surface finish on at least a portion of said at least one outer surfaces, said

molded outer layer adapted to enhance friction between said blade portion and a puck.

112 5 19. A hockey stick blade or replacement blade for the game of ice hockey and the like, said blade comprising:

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- a blade portion having two lateral outer surfaces;
 - at least one of said outer surfaces having a molded outer layer defining a rough surface finish including a series of small projections on at least a portion of said at least one outer surface, said molded outer layer adapted to enhance friction between said blade portion and a puck; and
 - a shock-absorbing element embedded into said at least one of said outer surfaces.

15 20. A two-part mold for making a hockey stick blade or replacement blade for the game of ice hockey and the like, said two-part mold comprising:

- an internal cavity defined by interior surfaces of said two-part mold;
- at least one of said interior surfaces comprising a grit pattern;
- at least one of said interior surfaces comprising pockets adapted to receive a series of shock-absorbing elements.

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25 21. A method of making a hockey stick blade or replacement blade for the game of ice hockey and the like, said method comprising the steps of:

- inserting at least one shock-absorbing element into a corresponding cavity of a mold having the general shape of a hockey stick blade;
- introducing into said mold a material for hardening within said mold;
- curing said material;
- opening said mold to remove a hockey stick blade having at least one shock-absorbing element embedded into said hockey stick blade.

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